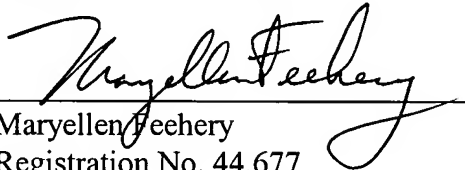


**REMARKS**

Applicant amends the claims as noted above. Claims 3 and 24 to 60 are hereby canceled without prejudice and reserving the right to prosecute these claims in divisional patent applications. Claims 5 to 10 have been amended for reasons unrelated to patentability and merely to reflect proper dependencies.

Applicant does not believe any additional fee is required for this Preliminary Amendment, however, in the event any additional fee is required or any overpayment credit is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0586.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

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Date of Deposit April 16, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper, and the papers and/or fees referred to herein as transmitted, submitted or enclosed, are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Name: Carrie A. McPherson Signature Carrie A. McPherson